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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT  
GUIDE 4  
CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 4-JAN-54

50X1 SUBJECT The Agricultural Machinery Plant (Serp i Molot)  
in Kharkov

NO. OF PAGES 1

50X1 PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

50X1 DATE  
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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

DATE (OF INFO)

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1. The Agricultural Machinery Plant in Kharkov (Zavod Selsko-Khoziastvenikh Machin) was also referred to as the Hammer and Sickle Plant (Serp i Molot). Prior to the Russian Revolution it had been called the Zavod Gelferich-Sade. It was located just to the south of Kharkov. It was under the jurisdiction of the People's Commissariat of Heavy Industry (Narodnyi Komissariat Chelozhi Promishlenosti), Agricultural Machinery Section (Otdel Selsko-Khoziastvenikh Machin). 50X1
2. It made all kinds of agricultural machinery: plows (plugi); harrows (boroni); discs; mowers; binders; reapers; and threshers (molotilki). In 1938, the plant began to build combines, with automatic grain loaders, experimentally. A US McCormick combine was utilized as a model and the plant actually had possession of one. This factory had an extremely large production as it served all the southern USSR. There were only one or two other plants like it in the USSR. However, as regards combines, only about five per year were produced, as this activity was still on an experimental basis.
3. The factory was about six square kilometers in size - two kilometers by three kilometers. Approximately 40% of this space was roofed over. There were a foundry, a woodworking section, a machine section, an assembly section, and a good deal of closed storage space. 50X1
4. All the production of this factory was destined for the USSR. The plant worked three shifts of eight hours each and employed about six thousand workers. 50X1

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